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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

February 1, 2001

Mr. K. David Waddell
Executive Secretary
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

***Re: Petition by the Tennessee Telecommunications Association to Exempt
Voice Messaging from Regulation, Docket No. 00-00823.***

Dear Mr. Waddell:

The Tennessee Telecommunications Association member companies are in receipt of the TRA Staff's Data Request dated January 18, 2001. As we discussed by telephone last Friday, January 26, 2001, this letter is to request an extension until April 1, 2001 to respond to this data request.

The TTA intends to provide as much information as it can reasonably obtain from the member companies in order to give as complete a response as possible to the TRA Staff's request. However, some TTA member companies, as cooperatives, are not regulated by the Authority, and the TTA will likely not be providing information as to them. Some other TTA companies simply do not have the resources to respond to a data request of this magnitude, and so the TTA may not be able to provide the more specific information requested as to these companies. Otherwise, the TTA intends to respond in full, but needs the additional time to do so.

This extension is requested because TTA member companies are currently investing significant resources in quality joint industry comments regarding the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's proposed Service Standards Rules. This endeavor requires considerable coordination. There are also other pending dockets to which TTA members

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are currently required to devote their attention and resources, making it difficult for many of them to produce the requested information any sooner.

While the TTA's Petition to Deregulate Voice Messaging remains a priority with member companies, appropriate coordination of the response to the TRA Staff's Data Request in this matter will also require considerable time and effort. TTA member companies have begun collecting the requested information, and would anticipate a complete response by April 1, 2001.

We appreciate the current action on the TTA's petition and look forward to prompt consideration of this matter by the Authority once a coordinated response can be provided to the TRA Staff.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Dale Grimes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

R. Dale Grimes

RDG/gci
cc: Mr. Bruce Mottern